



T'filah Chai'at Mach'madim
A Weekday Service

Compiled by: Simone Schicker

Creative Liturgy
Summer 2016
Dr. Sarason

הִנֵּה מַה-טוֹב וּמַה-נְּעִים שִׁבֶּת אַחִים גַּם-יַחַד.

Hineih mah tov u'mah na-im shevet achim gam yachad.

In the Bible, those who care for animals are heroes, while those who hunt animals are villains. Jacob, Moses and King David were all shepherds, people who cared for animals. A traditional story tells that Moses was chosen for his mission because of his skill in caring for animals. "The Holy One, Blessed Be He, said 'Since you are merciful to the flock of a human being, you shall be the shepherd of My flock, Israel.'" Likewise Rebecca was chosen as a wife for Isaac because of her kindness to animals. When Abraham's servant asked for water for himself, she volunteered to water his camels as well, and thereby proved herself a worthy wife.

On the other hand, the two hunters in the Bible, Nimrod and Esau, are both depicted as villains. The Talmud tells the story of a great rabbi, Judah Ha-Nasi, who was punished with years of kidney stones and other painful ailments because he was insensitive to the fear of a calf being led to slaughter; he was relieved years later when he showed kindness to animals.¹

Ashrei

Music: Peri Smilow

*Ashrey yoshvay va-techa
Od yi hallelucha sela*

Ashrey, ashrey, ashrey yoshvay va-techa

Happy are those who dwell in your house
They will sing your praises forever

Vayomer Elohim - God then said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let the birds fly over the earth, across the face of the expanse of the sky! God then formed the great sea monsters, and every living creature that creeps, with which the waters swarm, all true to their types, and every winged bird, each true to its type; and God saw how good it was. God then blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply in the earth!" And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.²

¹ <http://www.jewfaq.org/animals.htm> OR <http://www.officiant.org/pet-memorials>

² From *The Torah: A Modern Commentary revised edition*

אֲדֹנָי שִׁפְתַי תִּפְתַּח וּפִי יִגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ:

Adonai, s'fatai tiftach, ufi yagid t'hilatecha.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק, וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה, אֱלֹהֵי רִבְקָה, אֱלֹהֵי רָחֵל, וְאֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה, הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגְּבוּר וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֵלְיוֹן, גּוֹמֵל חַסְדִּים טוֹבִים, וְקִנְיַת הַכֹּל, וְזוֹכֵר חַסְדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאֲמָהוֹת, וּמְבִיא גּוֹאֵל לְבָנָי בְּנֵיהֶם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה.
מֶלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמַגֵּן.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי מַגֵּן אַבְרָהָם וְעִזְרַת שָׂרָה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu v'Elohei avoteinu v'imoteinu, Elohei Avraham, Elohei Yitzchak v'Elohei Yaakov, Elohei Sarah, Elohei Rivkah, Elohei Rachel v'Elohei Leah. Ha-El hagadol hagibor v'hanora, El elyon, gomeil chasadim tovim, v'koneih hakol, v'zocheir chasdei avot v'imahot, umeivi g'ulah liv'nei v'neihem l'maan sh'mo b'ahavah.

Melech ozeir umoshia umagen.

Baruch atah, Adonai, magein Avraham v'ezrat Sarah.

אַתָּה גְּבוּר לְעוֹלָם אֲדֹנָי, מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל/מֵתִים אַתָּה, רַב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ

(winter) *מְשִׁיב הַרְיֹחַ וּמוֹרִיד הַגֶּשֶׁם

(summer) *מוֹרִיד הַטַּל

מְכַלְכֵּל חַיִּים בְּחֶסֶד מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל/מֵתִים בְּרַחֲמִים רַבִּים, סוֹמֵךְ נוֹפְלִים וְרוֹפֵא חוֹלִים וּמַתִּיר אֲסוּרִים וּמְקַיֵּם אֲמוּנָתוֹ לִישְׁנֵי עֶפֶר, מִי כְמוֹךָ בְּעַל גְּבוּרוֹת וּמִי דוֹמֶה לְךָ מֶלֶךְ מְמִית וּמְחַיֶּה וּמְצַמִּיחַ יְשׁוּעָה.

וְנֶאֱמַן אַתָּה לְהַחְיֹת הַכֹּל/מֵתִים. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל/הַמֵּתִים:

Atah gibor l'olam, Adonai, m'chayeih hakol/meitim atah, rav l'hoshia.

**Winter— Mashiv haruach umorid hagashem.*

**Summer — Morid hatal.*

M'chalkeil chayim b'chesed, m'chayeih hakol/meitim b'rachamim rabim, someich noflim, v'rofei cholim, umatir asurim, um'kayeim emunato lischeinei afar. Mi chamochah baal g'vurotumi domeh lach, melech meimit um'chayeh umatzmiach y'shuah.

V'ne-eman atah l'hachayot hakol/meitim. Baruch atah, Adonai, m'chayeih hakol/hameitim.

נִקְדַּשׁ אֶת שְׁמֶךָ בְּעוֹלָם כְּשֵׁם שְׁמִקְדִּישִׁים אוֹתוֹ בְּשְׁמֵי מְרוֹם כְּכַתוּב עַל יַד נְבִיאְךָ וְקָרָא זֶה אֶל־זֶה וְאָמַר "קְדוֹשׁ קְדוֹשׁ קְדוֹשׁ יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת מְלֵא כָל־הָאָרֶץ כְּבוֹדוֹ: לְעַמְתָּם בְּרוּךְ יֵאמְרוּ.

בְּרוּךְ כְּבוֹד־יְהוָה מִמְקוֹמוֹ: וּבְדַבְרֵי קְדוֹשׁךָ כְּתוּב לֵאמֹר.
יְמֶלֶךְ יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם אֱלֹהֵיךָ צִיּוֹן לְךָ וְדָר הַלְלוּיָהּ:

לְדוֹר וָדוֹר נִגִּיד גְּדֻלָּתְךָ, וְלִנְצַח נִצְחִים קִדְשְׁתֶּךָ נִקְדִּישׁ, וְשִׁבְחְךָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מִפִּינוּ לֹא
יִמוּשׁ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי האל הקדוש:

*N'kadeish et shimcha baolam, k'shem shemakdishim oto bish'mei marom, kakatuv al yad
n'vi-echa, v'kara zeh el zeh v'amar: Kadosh, kadosh, kadosh Adonai tz'vaot, m'lo chol haaretz
k'vodo.*

L'umatam baruch yomeir.

Baruch k'vod Adonai mimkomo. Uv'divrei kodsh'cha katuv leimor.

Yimloch Adonai l'olam, Elohayich Tzion l'dor vador, hal'luyah.

*L'dor vador nagid godlecha ul'neitzach n'tzachim k'dushat'cha nakdish, v'shivchacha
Eloheinu, mipinu lo yamush l'olam va'ed.*

Baruch atah, Adonai, Ha-El hakadosh.

Wisdom/בִּינָה

You grace humans with knowledge and teach mortals understanding.
Graciously share with us Your wisdom, insight, and knowledge. Blessed are
You, Adonai, who graces us with knowledge.

Repentance/תְּשׁוּבָה

Return us to Your Torah and draw us to Your service, and in complete
repentance restore us to Your Presence. Blessed are You, Adonai, who
welcomes repentance.

Apology/סְלִיחָה

Forgive us for we have sinned, pardon us for we have transgressed, for You
pardon and forgive. Blessed are You, Adonai, abounding in forgiveness.

Redemption/גְּאֻלָּה

Take note of our affliction and make our struggles Yours. Redeem us swiftly
for Your Name's sake, for You are the mighty redeemer. Blessed are You,
Adonai, who redeems Israel.

Healing/רְפוּאָה

Heal us, Adonai, and let us be healed; save us and let us be saved. Grant full
healing to our every illness, wound and pain. Blessed are You, Adonai, who
heals the sick.

בְּרַכַּת הַשָּׁנִים/ Blessing of the Years

Bless this our year and its abundant harvest for good. Grant blessing throughout the earth and satisfy us with Your goodness. Blessed are You, Adonai, who blesses the years.

חֵירוּת/ Freedom

Sound the great shofar to proclaim our freedom, raise a great banner for our oppressed and let the voice of liberty be heard in the four corners of the earth. Blessed are You, Adonai, who redeems the oppressed.

חֻסְדֵּךָ/ Law

Pour Your spirit upon the rulers of all lands; guide them that they may govern justly. O may You alone rule over us in steadfast love and compassion. Blessed are You, Adonai, who loves righteousness and justice.

עַל הַרְשָׁעָה/ Upon the Wicked

And for wickedness, let there be no hope, and may all the errant return to You, and may the realm of wickedness be shattered. Blessed are You, Adonai, whose will it is that the wicked vanish from the earth.

צְדִיקִים/ Righteousness

Toward the righteous, toward the pious, toward the leaders of Your people Israel, toward those who choose sincerely to be Jews and toward us all, may Your tender mercies be stirred. Adonai, our God grant a good reward to all who trust in Your name and number us among them. Blessed is Adonai, the staff and the stay of the righteous.

יְרוּשָׁלַיִם/ Jerusalem

And turn in compassion to Jerusalem, Your city. May there be peace in her gates, quietness in the hearts of her inhabitants. Let Your Torah go forth from Zion and Your word from Jerusalem. Blessed is Adonai, who gives peace to Jerusalem.

יְשׁוּעָה/ Salvation

May truth spring up from the earth; may justice look down from the heavens. May the strength of Your people flourish through Your deliverance for we continually hope for Your deliverance. Blessed are You, Adonai, who causes salvation to flourish.

Hears Prayer / שומע תפלה

Hear our voice, Adonai our God, have compassion upon us and accept our prayer with favor and mercy. Blessed is Adonai, who hearkens to prayer.

Prayer/ עבודה

Find favor, Adonai, our God, with Your people Israel and accept their prayer in love. May the worship of Your people Israel always be acceptable. God who is near to all who call, turn lovingly to Your servants. Pour out Your spirit upon us. Let our eyes behold Your loving return to Zion. Blessed are You, Adonai, whose Presence returns to Zion.

Thanksgiving/ הודאה

We acknowledge with thanks that You are Adonai, our God and the God of our ancestors, forever. You are the Rock of our lives, and the Shield of our salvation in every generation. Let us thank You and praise You - for our lives which are in Your hand, for our souls which are in Your care, for Your miracles that we experience every day and for Your wondrous deeds and favors at every time of day: evening, morning and noon. O Good One, whose mercies never end, O Compassionate One, whose kindness never fails, we forever put our hope in You.

For all these things, O Sovereign, let Your name be forever praised and blessed. O God, our Redeemer and Helper, let all who live affirm You and praise Your Name in truth. Blessed are You, Adonai, Your Name is Goodness, and You are worthy of thanksgiving.

Peace/ שלום

Grant abundant peace to Israel Your people forever, for You are the sovereign God of all peace. May it be pleasing to You to bless Your people Israel, in every season and moment with Your peace.

Grant me the ability to be alone;
may it be my custom to go outdoors each day
among the trees and the grasses,
among all growing things,
there to be alone
and enter into prayer,
talking to the One
to whom I belong.
May all grasses, trees and plants
awake at my coming.
Send the power of their life into prayer,
making whole my heart and my speech
through the life and spirit of growing things...³

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוֵמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ : אָמֵן.

Oseh shalom bimromav, hu yaaseh shalom aleinu v'al kol Yisrael, v'imru: Amen.

³ 274-5 On the Doorposts of Your house

We rejoice in the light of day, in the warmth of the sun.

We rejoice in the light of day.

In the quiet night, whose dark sky reveals worlds beyond the dark.

We rejoice in the peace of night.

In the earth and its hills and valleys, its fields of grain, its fruit and flowers.

We rejoice in the beauty of earth.

In the creatures of the earth, wild and domestic, who bless our lives with their presence.

We rejoice in all living creatures.

We rejoice in homes where we find shelter from the cold and storm.

We rejoice in the shelter of home.

In the love of fathers and mothers with whose blessing we have gone forth into the world.

We rejoice in the love of parents.

In the children who bless our homes, who are the promise of tomorrow.

We rejoice in our children.

In friends who stand by our side in sorrow and in joy, in triumph and defeat.

We rejoice, and will rejoice for evermore.⁴

Individual blessing of the pets

⁴ Page 271 On the Doorposts of Your House with addition.

Aleinu

עֲלֵינוּ לְשַׁבַּח לְעֶדוֹן הַכֹּל לְתֵת גְּדֻלָּה לְיוֹצֵר בְּרֵאשִׁית, שֶׁהוּא עָשָׂה גּוֹיִם רַבִּים
וְכוֹלֵם חַפְצִים לְהַבְחִין בְּדַרְכָּיו, וְנָתַן לָנוּ גּוֹרֵל מִיּוֹחַד שֶׁגָּלָה לָנוּ אֶת מְשַׁפְּטָיו:

It is up to us to praise the Foundation of all,
to attribute greatness to the One who formed creation,
who made many nations,
all of whom seek
to perceive God's ways,
and who gave to us a unique destiny
by revealing to us Divine laws.⁵

Reflections before Kaddish

Eternal God, Creator of all human life, parent of the universe, help us fulfill our obligation to replenish the world. Teach us the sanctity of all life that we may truly serve as partners with You in the daily act of creation. May we learn to manifest our love for You through loving all of Your Creation. May we become messengers of Your loving concern now and forever.

How wonderful, O God, are the works of Your hands! The heavens declare Your glory, the arch of sky displays Your handiwork.

In Your love You have given us the power to behold the beauty of Your world, robed in all its splendor. The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes - all disclose Your presence.

The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might; the beasts of the field and the birds of the air bespeak Your wondrous will. All life comes forth by Your creative will.

⁵ Written by Rabbi David Seidenberg

<http://opensiddur.org/fixed-prayers/aleinu/aleinu-by-rabbi-david-seidenberg-neohasid-org/>

In Your goodness You have made us able to hear the music of the world. The raging of the winds, the whispering of trees in the wood, the precious voices of all created life reveal to us that You are in our midst. A divine voice sings through all creation.

Of all created things the source is one,
Simple, single as love; remember
The cell and seed of life, the sphere
That is, of child, white bird and small blue
 dragon-fly,
Green fern and the gold four-petalled tormentilla
The ultimate memory.
Each latent cell puts out a future,
Unfolds its differing complexity
As a tree puts forth leaves, and spins a fate
Fern-traced, birth-feathered, or fish-scaled.
Moss spreads its green film on the moist peat,
The germ of dragon-fly pulses into animation
 and takes wing
As the water-lily from the mud ascends on its
 ropy stem
To open a sweet white calyx to the sky.

Open our eyes, God, to all of these marvels.
May we proclaim with the Psalmist:
“This is the day which God has made. Let us
 rejoice and be glad thereon.”⁶

⁶ Jewish Prayer Service / World Week of Prayer for Animals / Rabbi Harold S. White President, International Network for Religion and Animals / “Between the Species” Fall 1989 <http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/bts/>

Prayer for the Death of a Beloved Pet

By Rabbi Barry H. Block

O Lord our God, we come before You this day in sadness. (Pet's name), who brought us so much joy in life, has now died. (His/Her) happy times in our family's embrace have come to an end. We miss (pet's name) already.

Help us, O God, to remember the good times with (pet's name). Remind us to rejoice in the happy times (he/she) brought to our home. Let us be thankful for the good life we were blessed to give to (him/her).

We are grateful to You, God, for creating (pet's name), for entrusting (him/her) to our care, and for sustaining (him/her) in our love for a measure of time. We understand that all that lives must die. We knew that this day would come. And yet, O God, we would have wanted one more day of play, one more evening of love with (pet's name).

O God, as we have taken care of (pet's name) in life, we ask that You watch over (him/her) in death. You entrusted (pet's name) to our care; now, we give (him/her) back to You. May (pet's name) find a happy new home in Your loving embrace.

As we remember (pet's name), may we love each other more dearly. May we care for all Your creatures, for every living thing, as we protected the blessed life of (pet's name). May (his/her) memory bless our lives with love and caring forever. Amen.

Mourner's Kaddish (Modified)⁷

Yitga-dal v'yit-ka-dash sh'may raba,
v'yam leech mal-chu-tay,
b'alma deevra chi-roo-tay,
b'chai-yay-chon uv-yo-maychon, uv-cha-yay d'chol bayt yishvay tehval,
ba-a-ga-lah u-viz-man kareev, v'imru oh-meyn.
Y'hay sh'may ra-ba m'va-rach l'olam ool-ol-may ol-may-yah.
Yit-bar-rach v'yish-ta-bach, v'yit-pah-ar v'yit-ro-mam,
v'yit-na-say v'yit-ha-dar, v'yit-a-leh, v'yit'halal
sh'may d'kud sho b'richu;
l'ay-la min kol bir-chatah v'shee-rata,
tush-b'cha-ta v'ne-cheh-mah-tah, da-a-mee-ron b'alma,
v'imru, oh-meyn.
V'hay sh'lo-mo ra-ba min sh'may-yah,
v'chay-im olaynu v'yal kol yishvay tehval
v'imru, oh-mayn.
O-seh shalom bimromahv.
Hu ya-ah-seh shalom.
Aleynu v'yal kol yishvay tehval,
v'imru, oh-mayn.

7

<https://aftergadget.wordpress.com/grief-resources/jewish-resources-for-mourning-a-dog-with-inclusive-mourners-kaddish/>

Mourner's Kaddish (Amended) — An English Translation⁸

May it be magnified
and may it be sanctified
Your great name
in the world you created according to your will.
May the world establish and fulfill
in your life and in your days
and in the life of all creation
soon
and near in time
and say, Amen.
May your great name be praised
forever, and ever and ever.
May it be praised
and may it be blessed
and may it be glorified
and may it be upraised
and may it be elevated,
and may it be honored
and may it be exalted
and may it be extolled,

⁸

<https://aftergadget.wordpress.com/grief-resources/jewish-resources-for-mourning-a-dog-with-inclusive-mourners-kaddish/>

the name of the Holy One, Blessed Be,
beyond all words of praise, words of song,
words of blessing, and words of comfort
that are uttered in this world,
and say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all G-d's
creation; and say, Amen.

May G-d who creates peace in the celestial heights, create peace for us and for
all creation; and say, Amen.

Supplements for service leader

Blessings for Cats

Yesimkha E-lohim ki-yehuda ha-aryeh

May God make you like the lion of Judah.

[by Rabbi Anna Rosenfield]

Blessing for Dogs

Yesimkha E-lohim ke-kalev ha-ne-eman

May God make you like Caleb, the loyal one.

<http://www.ritualwell.org/ritual/blessing-animals-friday-night>

Blessing on seeing a beautiful animal

ברוך אתה הי אלוהינו מלך העולמות שככה לו בעולמו

Barukh ata Adonai, eloheynu melekh ha'olam, shekakhah lo ba'olamo.

Blessed are you God, Ruler of the Universe who has such as these in the world

<http://www.ritualwell.org/ritual/saying-good-bye-beloved-pet>

Idea for this service came from the Catholic tradition. The following blessing is bestowed on animals/pets by the Priest in Catholic Churches around the world.

"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen." <http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/francis/blessing.asp>